7/19/77

Dear Harold,

Just a very quick note. A very nice woman lawyer from the Office of Legal Counsel, DJ, called about my request re you, and asked if I could provide a release from you. The OLC has been the most cooperative with me so far. I wrote the attached release so that it could cover all the DJ requests without having to make out a separate one for each pffice. If you return it to me signed, I'll send you and JL copies.

By the way, assume from now on that any FOIA things I send you I've also sent to JL under separate cover. I hope this will be more convenient for you. Thus, the FOIA things enclosed have also gone to JL. I didn't know if you had Bell's letter and thought it would be important to you.

I'll prepare an affidavit soon and have it notarized. Please underatand I'm very pressured right now--bar exam in a week. I have found out that I passed the first part, so I am relieved to that degree.

Just a cautionary note re your estate. I get the impression from what you write that even if you do not have a will your expressions of your desires contained in letters to me, JL and others will have legal effect. This is not true. If everyone concerned agrees, then there is no problem. But to make your testamentary desires legally binding, you must make a will in conformity with statutory requirements--signed by you at the end and witnessed by 2 people, preferably who have no interest. Some states recognize holographic wills w/o witnesses, (I don't know if Md does), but to be valid it must be <u>entirely</u> in the handwriting of the testator. So it may be to your advantage to have JL draw up just an interim will properly executed. It is a difficult thing for me to talk or think about, but I know how serious you are in your desires and I don't want to see them unfulfilled when you are not here to enforce them.

Best,

Howard